

Alabama. The Bulldogs finished the season with a record of 13–2.

Piedmont High School is located in northern Calhoun County, and their Bulldogs are coached by Steve Smith. The principal is Jerry Snow.

Congratulations to the Piedmont County High School Bulldogs football team, coaches, staff, and high school. All of us across Calhoun County and east Alabama are proud of these young people for their outstanding achievement.

HONORING ROBERT FOX, MAJOR
(RET.)

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 8, 2009

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today, along with my colleague JIM COSTA, to commend and congratulate Robert Fox upon being honored the "Citizen Soldier Award" by Fresno City College. Major Fox was recognized on Friday, November 6, 2009 at the annual Veterans Peace Memorial event held at Fresno City College in Fresno, California.

Major Robert Fox enlisted in the Indiana National Guard in 1962, and became the first African American to be commissioned as a Second Lieutenant by the Officer Candidate School at the Indiana Military Academy. He served with National Guard units in Indiana and Iowa prior to fulfilling his service obligations. In 1980 Major Fox received a direct commission as a Captain (03) and was assigned to the 49th Military Police Brigade of the California Army National Guard.

Shortly after Major Fox assumed the Dean's position at Fresno City College, he was transferred to the 195th Transportation Battalion in Fresno, where he served as a staff officer. He was later selected to command the 2668th Transportation Company. During his tenure as Commander, the 2668th was selected on short notice to participate in Operation Team Spirit in the Republic of Korea. The unit was required to prepare assigned equipment, personnel and supplies to sustain the unit for forty days under combat conditions. The unit exceeded all time requirements in its preparation and performed in a meritorious manner during the exercise.

After assignment to the 115th Support Group in Roseville, California, Major Fox returned to the 185th Transportation Battalion with the rank of Major (04) as Battalion S–2/3 with the responsibility of training and operations. In 1994, Major Fox retired from the California National Guard after serving as Battalion Executive Director.

Major Fox's commitment to the welfare, professional development and career advancement of the non-commissioned officers and junior commissioned officers under his leadership were hallmarks of his service. His military education includes the completion of the Adjunct General Corps, Military Police Corps and Transportation Corps Basic Officer Courses; the Military Police Corps and Transportation Corps Advanced Officer Courses and attendance at the Command and General Staff School. For his service, Major Fox has been awarded the Army Commendation Medal with Cluster and the Army Achievement Medal.

Madam Speaker, Mr. COSTA and I rise today to commend and congratulate Major Robert Fox upon being recognized as a "Citizen Soldier." I invite my colleagues to join us in wishing Major Fox many years of continued success.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE SAILORS WHO HAVE COMPLETED 1,000 DETERRENT PATROLS ON "OHIO" CLASS SUBMARINES

HON. JACK KINGSTON

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 8, 2009

Mr. KINGSTON. Madam Speaker, I rise to support H. Con. Res. 129. To congratulate the accomplishment of Submarine Sailors completing 1,000 *Ohio*-class deterrent patrols. The people of coastal Georgia have great pride in their Submarine Sailors. It started back in July 1978 when Kings Bay, Georgia was chosen to be home for the Trident missile submarines of the Atlantic Fleet. In November 1981 the USS *Ohio* was commissioned and became the first submarine to carry Trident Missiles. *Ohio* made her first patrol 27 years ago this month in December 1982. Over 20 years ago in January 1989 the USS *Tennessee* became the first *Ohio*-class submarine to be stationed in Kings Bay. In Spring 2008 USS *Georgia* returned to Kings Bay to start a new type of mission as an SSGN.

Ohio-class submarines are modern marvels as the sea-based leg of the strategic deterrence triad. SSBNs (or Boomers) have a wide range of capabilities and when directed by the President can rapidly target their missiles. Each Boomer can carry 24 Trident missiles with up to 8 warheads per missile. These missiles have a range of over 7,000 miles and can reach their target within 30 minutes. The warhead is accurate enough to hit the area the size of a baseball diamond with the destructive force of 475 kilotons of TNT. As impressive as these ships are, they are operated by the even more impressive Sailors of the submarine force. Our Sailors have faithfully safeguarded the Boomers without incident for 50 years. Our submarine Sailors have set the gold standard for nuclear surety in the world.

These Sailors are screened for physical, mental and psychological fitness to serve on submarines. They spend up to two years in school to know how to work on a submarine including cooking, plumbing, electrical repair, underwater maintenance, operating a nuclear powered propulsion plant and maintaining 100% reliability of the strategic missile system all of the time. Most of the crew is between 20 to 25 years old but some already have college degrees and all are volunteers. Within one year of first stepping onboard a submarine these Sailors earn their "Dolphins," a pin that signifies they are fully knowledgeable of the submarine's many technical systems and fully reliable during any casualty to be able to save the ship and their shipmates. They join the proud history and tradition of the submarine force with World War II submarine heroes like Mush Morton, Dick O'Kane and Admiral Eugene Fluckey. Because of the sacrifice and hard work of these Trident Sailors they have kept the 18 *Ohio*-class submarines in outstanding condition. These ships will last close

to ten years longer than their design life despite operating in the harsh conditions of the oceans.

For over 1,000 patrols the Sailors serving on *Ohio*-class submarines have moved on and off the ship during crew turnover. They bring their sea bag full of gear, photos of family and friends, some snacks, and nowadays their favorite DVDs and I-Tunes. During a two-month patrol they make the boat their home. Maybe once a week they get an email from home called Sailor Mail. They routinely do not actually talk to their wives, kids, family or friends for many weeks. This is a unique sacrifice especially during this age of global telecommunication.

During those 1,000 patrols while these Sailors were at sea, the rest of us could go to work everyday, worship on Sunday, take our kids to baseball practice after school, shop at the grocery store and fish in our lakes and streams without fear because these Sailors stood the watch and defended our homes. For this we are thankful every day.

I rise today to congratulate our nation's Submarine Sailors who completed 1,000 patrols on *Ohio*-class submarines on this day December 2, 2009.

CONGRATULATING THE CHAZY CENTRAL RURAL SCHOOL BOYS SOCCER TEAM

HON. WILLIAM L. OWENS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 8, 2009

Mr. OWENS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Chazy Central's boys' soccer team for their victory in the 2009 New York state soccer championship.

On Sunday the 22nd of November, high school soccer fans were treated to a great soccer match between some of the most skilled players in the state. The Chazy boys entered the state championship ranked as the number one team in their class and they carried that honor to the state championship, defeating Northville Central School in the final match.

I also want to extend my congratulations to Coach Rob McAuliffe, who built upon an impressive legacy to take our team to victory. I understand that since 1953, the Chazy boys' soccer team has had only four regular seasons without a winning record, and the elite status of these athletic young men could not have been reached without the 14 years of dedication from Coach McAuliffe.

I want to congratulate the boys' team of Kyle McCarthy, Brandon Laurin, Kaleb Snide, Tyler Bulriss, Shea Howley, Jordan Berriere, Andrew Rabideau, Nathan Reynolds, Andrew Duprey, Marc Oshier, Nolan Rogers, Dyllan Hack, Ian Anderson, Michael Santor, Matt Gravelle, and Austin Santor for all they have accomplished. Their teamwork sets a strong example for the community and reminds us all what is possible when we come together.

Once again, congratulations to Coach McAuliffe for his continuing efforts and to the Chazy Eagles on their success.